

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of May 29-June 2, 2006**

- 1. Enterprise Zone Meeting (Wards 2, 3, and 6):** The HCD Department will be hosting an Enterprise Zone meeting for businesses in the area of New Hampshire Avenue and University Boulevard on Tuesday, June 6th. Susan Milukas of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development will explain various financing programs targeted towards small businesses. The meeting will also include an update on area criminal activity from Sgt. Gilbert of Takoma Park Police and information on planning efforts along the corridor. The meeting begins at 9:30 am and will be held at the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue. For more information, please contact David Suls at 301-891-7219. *(Housing and Community Development)*
- 2. Acquisition of Hampshire Towers (Ward 6):** The 448 unit rental facility was purchased yesterday by Tenacity Group, LLC in partnership with Community Preservation and Development Corporation (CPDC) and the Hampshire Towers Tenants Association. This is the largest rental facility in Takoma Park to be purchased under the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Ordinance and represents a huge step forward for the residents who are working towards home ownership and the preservation of affordable rental housing. One of the two buildings is to be converted to condominiums, the other maintained as rental. *(Housing and Community Development)*
- 3. Landlord-Tenant Affairs - Air Conditioning (City-wide):** Now that the hot weather has come, we are receiving more calls regarding air-conditioning. Some landlords, who in the past have charged fees for increased electrical costs during the summer months because of window air conditioners, have the right to continue those fees. Some have chosen to give large increases to their tenants this year. In accordance with our code, the fees would have to be for the actual increase in cost of the electricity and there would have to be a two- month written notification given to the tenants before this increase can go into effect. Therefore any landlord giving notice to tenants in May would not be able to take this increase until August 1, 2006. The fee charged last year would still apply to May, June and July. Any tenant or landlord who has questions about air conditioning or fees may contact Moses Wilds, Jr. at 301.891.7215. *(Housing and Community Development)*
- 4. Temporary Porta-John Installation Stopped:** Park and Planning maintenance staff began installing a concrete pad for porta-johns at the Grant Avenue entrance to Takoma-Piney Branch Park on Friday. Alert neighbors notified officials and the work was stopped. Park staff were trying to address concerns about the porta-johns in the Darwin Avenue parking lot, but did not realize they should have checked with others that have been involved in the multi-year discussion about plans for the park. Park staff will communicate with City staff about next steps and City staff will let the community know about the outcome. *(Community & Government Liaison)*
- 5. Homicide Investigation (Ward 3):** Criminal Investigations continues active investigation of the May 15th Flower Avenue homicide. No public information is available in the ongoing investigation. D/Cpl Andrew John attended a citizens meeting in Circle Woods. *(Police)*

6. Crime Statistics: The chart of Crime Statistics by Beat is attached for the first quarter of 2006. Increases are primarily the result of robberies occurring in the V3 Beat (Ward 3) in an area roughly bordered by Eastern, New Hampshire and Ethan Allen Avenues. Two arrests have been made with another pending and investigation continues with interjurisdictional cooperation with agencies experiencing a similar pattern of robberies. Additionally, auto thefts or attempts in the Victor Sector (Ward 1 & 3) numbered 13 in the quarter, compared to two in the same period last year. The Department continues to make steering wheel locks (a theft deterrent) available at \$10. *(Police: Please visit www.takomaparkmd.gov to view the chart.)*

7. RSVP Deadline: The Awards Presentation for TPPD 2005 honors will take place next Friday in the Auditorium at 6:45, followed by dinner in the Azalea Room (approximately 7:15 p.m.). Please provide your RSVP by Wednesday noon. *(Police)*

8. Victim Services Coordinator: Diana Dean, the Department's Victim/Witness Services Coordinator, has resigned after seven years during which she received a Governor's award for victim services. Ms. Dean, who has been working in the intense field of victim services for more than 25 years, will be joining the Maryland States Attorneys Association as its administrative coordinator. *(Police)*

9. Traffic Enforcement (Wards 2, 3, 4, & 5): The majority of the week's traffic enforcement was conducted on internal streets, including Maple, Flower and Carroll. About 70 percent concluded with citations written. *(Police)*

10. Citation Count: In the month of May, parking enforcement officers (PEOs) wrote 200 citations throughout the City (one PEO was on leave part of month). The Nuisance Abatement Specialist also handled eight noise and animal complaints. *(Police)*

11. New PD Recruits: Christopher Walker of Clinton, Md, has accepted a position as a communications dispatcher and will begin his field training on June 7. Background investigation continues on candidates to fill two openings in dispatch. An entry exam for police officers will be held Saturday June 10. Applicants should speak with Ofc. Paula Gaskin at 301.891.7128 to register. *(Police)*

12. Street Restoration (Ward 1): The concrete curb and gutter work on Spruce Ave is completed. Resurfacing is tentatively scheduled for next week. *(Public Works)*

13. Heffner Park Improvements (Ward 4): The parking lot at Heffner Park was resurfaced this week and some additional improvements were made to extend the retaining wall to eliminate some erosion problems. This completes the work funded through the Community Parks and Playgrounds grant the City received for this park. The lot will be striped next week. *(Public Works)*

14. A City Award: City TV staff are thrilled to announce that they have received notification of an award in the 2006 Hometown Video Festival. The award is in the category of Government Profile, and is for a Snapshots Community Policing Segment called "Going to the Dogs". TPPD's canine teams with handlers, Cpl. Keith Largent and Cpl. Doug Malarkey, were featured along with city businessman John Urciola explaining how canine is used and its value in public safety. The awards ceremony is in July in Boston. This segment is co-produced by our outside producer Paula Rehr and Police Department Public Affairs Specialist Carol Bannerman. Please visit

http://takomapark.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=16 to see the award-winning Snapshots episode. (*City TV*)

15. Takoma Park Poetry Reading Series - Anne Dykers and Alan Rubenstein (City-wide): The work of local poets Anne Dykers and Alan Rubenstein will be featured at the Community Center on Thursday, June 8 at 7:00 pm. The reading is part of an ongoing poetry series sponsored by Takoma Park Poet Laureate Don Berger and the Arts and Humanities Commission. The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. (*Housing and Community Development*)

16. Community Center Exhibits - Atrium Gallery and Richard Dempsey Memorial Gallery (City-Wide): The work of local artists Riki Schneyer, Carollyn James, Renee Lachman, and Josh Holland will be showcased in the exhibit, "Four Painters in Takoma Park". The artists will be hosting an ice cream social on Sunday, June 11 to celebrate the opening of the show. The event will be held in the atrium gallery from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. The exhibit will be on display at the Takoma Park Community Center from June 1 through June 30. (*Housing and Community Development*)

17. "Passport to Korea" celebrates the artwork created by the children participating in the April spring break camp offered by Learning to Care of Takoma Park. Join these young artists in the Richard Dempsey Memorial Gallery on Sunday, June 11 from 2:30 to 5:00 pm. Enjoy Korean food, see the famous battle of Admiral Yi's turtle boat, paint masks, and see what that movie "Doggy Poo" is all about! The children's artwork can be viewed at the Community Center the entire month of June. (*Housing and Community Development*)

18. "Faces of War: A Peace Memorial", created by YOUTEW (Young Objectors United to End War), a group of young artist-peacemakers from central California between the ages of 15 and 22, will open at the Community Center on Friday, June 16. The artists will be recognized at an opening event that evening at 6pm in the Community Center. The artists will be on hand as well as poets from DC Poets Against the War and the Beltway Poetry Quarterly. The exhibit consists of a large grid wire installation, hung with handmade 'dog tags' holding the faces of US soldiers who have died in the present war in Iraq. (*Housing and Community Development*)

First Quarter 2006 (Jan - Mar) Takoma Park UCR Statistics - Part One Crimes				
	2004	2005	2006	Range of Annual Rate <i>(based on 1994-03)</i>
Homicide	0	0		0-2
Rape	1	2		4-9
Robbery	13	10		59-94
Aggravated Assault	6	5		24-39
Burglary	35	26		129-162
Larceny	81	106		457-601
Auto Theft	33	29		141-202
1 st Q Totals	169	178		868-1,058

2006 Reported Crime, 1 st Quarter, by Takoma Park Police Beat ¹											
	V1	V2	V3	W4	W5	W6	X7	X8	X9	06 Total 1 st Q	05 Total 1 st Q
Homicide	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Robbery	0	3	14	3	5	0	2	5	2	34	10
Aggravated Assault	1	1	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	7	6
Burglary	4	3	2	2	1	2	4	5	6	29	25
Larceny (over \$500) ²	1	0	2	2	5	4	1	3	3	21	25
Auto Theft	4	3	6	1	2	1	4	6	8	35	28
1 st Q 2006 Total by beat	10	11	25	11	14	7	11	19	19	127	
1 st Q 2005 Total by beat	5	9	5	9	12	8	11	17	18		96

¹ Difference between UCR and “By Beat” total results reporting delays and other factors. ² Only larceny over \$500 or thefts from auto is counted by police beat; UCR includes all thefts.